

LOCAL NEWS.

Preaching at Harborton Baptist Church, Sunday night at 8 o'clock.

The Board of Supervisors will meet at the Alms-House, Wednesday, 16th inst.

Mrs. E. F. C. Garrett, of Accomac C. H., is at Buffalo Lithia Springs for her health and recreation.

Miss Maria Kellam, daughter of the late W. P. Moore Kellam, is at Accomac C. H., the guest of Mrs. A. J. Lilliston.

Mr. John W. Guy, of Northampton, was elected Grand Chief Templar at the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Good Templars in Danville, Va., last week.

Mrs. Clara Stein, of Baltimore, and Mrs. Mamie Henderson, of Horn-town, are at Accomac C. H., on a visit to the family of Mr. Ben T. Melson.

Revival services begin at the Methodist Church, in Drummondtown, next Sunday night. Rev. A. A. Jones, of Dorchester, will assist his son in these meetings.

Pungoteague Grange meets on Thursday, 17th inst.—regular meeting day. All members are requested to be present. Business of importance demands their attention.

The death of Dr. A. C. Bledsoe, reported elsewhere, will be received with regret throughout the Eastern Shore. He was many years ago pastor of several churches in the lower part of the county.

Rev. H. L. Simmerman will return from his vacation by the second Sunday in September, 13th inst., and will have services at the following places: Horn-town, 10:30 a. m.; Jenkins Bridge, 4 p. m., and Bloxom, 8 p. m.

A storehouse and lot situated near Mearsville on the road from Hunting Creek to Guilford, will be sold at public auction, at Cross-town, on Saturday, September 16th, 3 p. m., by Levin T. and John R. Crowson. For particulars see posters.

The residence of Mr. Oliver J. Lucas, formerly of this county, now of Pocomoke City, was struck by lightning last Sunday. Boards were torn from the outside of the house and walls badly damaged, but the inmates escaped without injury.

Miss Ruth S. Vaden, daughter of Rev. W. C. Vaden, pastor a few years ago of the Onancock M. E. Church, South, was married at Petersburg on Tuesday to Prof. M. M. Parks, recently elected to the chair of Latin in Wesleyan Female College, Macon, Ga.

The storehouse recently finished by Mr. A. J. Lilliston at Accomac C. H., is one of the largest and handsomest on the shore. It was occupied by Ashby & Belote this week, who will have their grand opening day on Wednesday, 16th inst. See advertisement.

The Novelty Carriage Works, Wilmington, Del., will have a display of their stock at Dover Fair next week. If you attend the fair and want a carriage you should not fail to see it. The company, as will be seen by advertisement in this paper, sell at a low margin of profit.

The house known as the "Steam Mill farm" in Upshur's Neck, owned by Dr. G. W. LeCato, was struck by lightning on Sunday last and considerably damaged. Capt. Coxton and his son happened to be absent from the building at the moment. A dog, the only occupant, was not injured.

Mr. G. Lloyd Doughty, of Accomac C. H., is in receipt of a circular from the "gold bugs" of Richmond, asking him to co-operate with them in forming a "sound money league" in Accomac. Mr. Doughty indignantly declines to "co-operate" as requested, and the democrats of Accomac generally who receive these circulars will treat them with like contempt.

The dwelling of Mrs. Margaret A. Hope, occupied by Mr. Thomas H. Johnson, near Parkley, was destroyed by fire last Monday night. The fire started in a summer kitchen about four feet from the dwelling and the origin of it is unknown. Mr. Johnson saved the most of his furniture. His loss is about \$75. The dwelling was worth about \$800. No insurance.

The democrats of Onancock and its vicinity are requested to meet at the Town Hall next Friday evening, September 18th, at 8 o'clock, to form a campaign club. Let all true Jeffersonian democrats come out and participate in the meeting. Several speakers will be present to deliver addresses in advocacy of the only genuine democratic ticket in the field as represented by Bryan, Sewall and Jones.

Samuel Clayton, colored, was shot last Monday night at a church near Parkley by John Clayton, colored, and will die of the wound inflicted. The ball entered Samuel Clayton's head just above the left eye and he has not spoken since. John Clayton was lodged in jail by Constable Dix on last Tuesday. He claims that the shooting was accidental. He will be released on bail, if he can give bond in penalty of \$350, that amount having been fixed by Judge Blackstone on Thursday.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES.

Chincoteague.

Miss Mollie Fields left this week for Farmville Normal School.

Rev. C. E. Stangle, of Dover, Del., filled M. E. pulpit last Sunday.

Mrs. Charlotte Conner, died after a long illness on 3 inst., aged 68 years.

Mr. G. R. Coleburn and family are visiting relatives and friends at Sea ford, Del.

Rev. J. H. Beauchamp, pastor of our M. E. Church resigned last Sunday, to accept position at Dover M. E. Academy.

Mr. B. Merrill and family, of Dover, Del., and Mr. Wm. Thompson, of Seaford, have moved to this place and will make it their future home.

Schooner Susan Jane arrived this week from Philadelphia with cargo of coal, and schooner Medora Francis from Norfolk with cargo of building material.

Mrs. D. J. Wheaton and family, Mrs. A. Hudson and family, Mrs. J. E. Massey and son, and Miss Florence Lewis, sojourners here during the summer, returned to their homes in Philadelphia last week.

Our bank building is completed and it is one of the handsomest south of Wilmington. It is a two story building, 20x32 feet, handsomely furnished and cost about \$3000. Hon. W. S. Wilson and O. D. Collins officers and stockholder spent several days here this week, assisting the cashier in moving into the building. It is truly an ornament to our town.

Arrivals at Atlantic hotel this week: F. W. Byrd, W. L. Duwall, R. B. Fisher, Baltimore; M. E. Selby, Wilmington; H. W. Pettit, S. F. Banks, Salem, N. J.; J. W. Gross, Dr. J. C. Stevens, O. M. Copelin, Dr. P. A. Hartman, Harrisburg, Pa.; W. S. Wilson, O. D. Collins, Thos. P. Selby, Jno. A. Selby, Snow Hill; Geo. Hadway, Jno. Bunting, Stockton; M. C. Broughton, A. S. Matthews, Chas. Reaves, Benj. Reaves, A. C. H. Bloxom, Accomac.

New Church.

Sweets are being shipped from here in large quantities. Prices are only fair.

Messrs. Shockley & Parsons are selling off their stock of goods at cost.

A series of revival meetings are going on at Berea M. P. Church, and all hope great success will be derived from same.

An entertainment held in Berea M. P. Church, last week, was quite a success. Mr. Taylor, the elocutionist from Atlantic, who gave the entertainment, did well. Any who did not hear his lecture missed a chance of a life time.

W. W. Dryden, agent here of N. Y., P. & N. R. R., for the past 12 months, has been removed and given a better position at King's Creek, near his home. We believe everyone regrets his departure. He was always ready to give any information asked for, and was kind and accommodating. Mr. J. T. Hoffman succeeds him.

Tragedy in Upper Accomac.

George W. Bunting shot and killed his father-in-law, Wm. T. Thornton, near Temperanceville, last Monday morning. The evidence submitted at the coroner's inquest and before Judge Blackstone on Thursday on application for bail, in regard to the homicide substantially was as follows. That Bunting and Thornton lived on the same farm—that Thornton got over the fence into a lane on the farm used by both in which Bunting was passing and approached him with a large hatchet in hand, raised on a level with his breast—that Bunting raised his gun and told him to come no further or he would shoot him—that Thornton continuing to advance on him Bunting shot Thornton when he was in a yard or so of him through the breast, inflicting a wound causing instant death.

Evidence was also submitted to the effect that the two men were not on speaking terms, that Bunting had been beaten by Thornton once, had run from him once or twice before, and had been threatened by Thornton of late that he would kill him.

The trouble which led to the homicide on Monday, according to the evidence of Samuel Thornton, nephew of the deceased, and Mrs. Bunting, his daughter, was caused by hogs. Thornton crippled the hogs of Bunting which got into his field on Sunday, by beating them with clubs and worrying them with dogs, and continuing to do it on Monday morning, Bunting took his gun along with him, as he stated, to kill the dogs, with the result stated.

The finding of the coroner's jury was, that Thornton "came to his death by a gun shot wound inflicted by the hands of Geo. W. Bunting on the 7th day of September, 1896, in self defense."

Bunting, who had surrendered himself and was confined in jail, on application for bail before Judge Blackstone on Thursday, was released by giving bond for \$7,500 for his appearance at next grand jury term.

Meeting to Appoint Inspectors.

By request of the Board of Directors of the Truck Growers' Association, there will be a district meeting held at Onancock on Saturday next, 12th inst., at 2 o'clock p. m., to appoint inspectors for Lee Magisterial District. All members and others interested are requested to be present. Mr. Nicholson, the general manager, is expected to be present and explain the workings of the association for the present season.

A. J. McMath, Chairman.

See Ames, Shield & Co's. advertisement in this issue. Next Wednesday is bargain day with them in hosiery and handkerchiefs.

Appointment of Teachers.

List of teachers appointed for session 1896-97:

LEWIS DISTRICT.

Onancock—G. G. Joynes, Miss Annie C. Bagwell and Miss Maud K. Bunk. Cashville—W. A. P. Strang and Miss Levie M. Boggs. Daugherty—Evan C. Kellam. Locustville—J. H. Hebard. Accomac C. H.—J. G. Nock and Miss H. Higgins. Chesconessix—Mrs. V. Lee McConnell and Miss Rebecca H. Chandler. Waples Gate—Miss Margaret Steward. Finney's Gate—Miss Alice Warren. Savageville—Miss Vida W. Kelly and Miss Evangeline Rew. Tangier—W. B. Respass, Miss Annie Steward, John Kelso and Walter Johnson. Waterfield's Gate—Miss R. T. Elliott. Coard's Branch—Miss Tibbie Grant. Only—Miss Bernice Guthrie. Bayly's Neck—Miss Eva M. Budd. Leatherbury's—Miss Ruth Keaton and Miss Sallie Scarborough. Killmoutown—Miss Sue G. Elliott. Colored. Morris Chapel—Geo. E. Blair. Onancock— and Fannie Rogers. Accomac C. H.—Robert Willis. Barton's—Samuel L. Burton. Savageville—Kate M. Kellam. Bull's Branch—James Uzzie. Cashville—John W. Baker. Chesconessix—L. W. Gaines. Teachers will not come to contract for schools until after the 18th inst., as I shall be absent until that time. T. C. KELLAM, Clerk.

ATLANTIC DISTRICT.

Greenbackville—Miss Kate C. Nelson and Miss Maggie Jarman. Sign Post—Miss Sallie W. Holland. Horn-town—Miss Mattie Wilson. Wattleville—Mrs. Esther J. Selby. Atlantic—Miss Bertie L. Parsons and Miss R. Davie Taylor. Assawamun—Miss Alice Gillespie. New Church—Miss Lola White and Miss Lillie M. West. Oak Hall—Miss Gerinda Evans. Temperanceville—Ed. Palmer and Miss Mamie C. Watson. Hallwood—Miss Sarah R. Conquest. Pittsville—Miss Flora K. Taylor. Jenkins Bridge—Mallory Fletcher. Copes—Miss Belle O. Stokes. Sanford—Miss Anna Westmoreland. Miss Juliette B. F. Parramore and Miss Lillie O. Byrd. Skyes—W. F. Venables and Miss Mattie Fletcher. Colored. Horn-town—R. H. Wallop. Wattleville—R. C. Stocton. Jerusalem—E. M. Scobom. Head Neck—R. G. Garnett. St. John's—Sylvia Harmon. New Church—Wm. Colburn. J. D. PARSONS, Clerk.

An Exchange of Shots.

PRINCESS AXE, Md., Sept. 8.—Mr. E. D. Young, the day operator of the N. Y., P. & N. R. R., at Princess Anne, and Mr. Tazewell Jones, proprietor of livery stables at this place, had a dispute yesterday over the delivery of a telegram.

During the dispute insulting epithets were passed, and this culminated in Mr. Young assaulting Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones drew a pistol and fired several shots at his antagonist to defend himself from the assault. Mr. Young also drew a pistol and fired once at Mr. Jones, but without effect.

After the affray it was found that Mr. Jones had received a flesh wound in the thigh. The bullet was probed for by Dr. Walworth and was removed.—Balto. Sun.

Mr. Young is from this county, son of Mr. John Young, Belle Haven, and was operator at Keller a few months ago.

Ordained to the Ministry.

Rev. R. W. Bagwell was ordained to the ministry a few days ago. Dr. T. S. Dunaway, who was present and assisted in the exercises in a letter to the Religious Herald of the 10th inst., contains the following justly merited notice of him:

"The day the meeting closed, at the call of the Moderator, the church, a presbytery, composed of Brethren A. J. Remy, J. L. King, M. F. Sanford, J. M. Dunaway, and your correspondent, met to examine and ordain to the full work of the gospel ministry our young brother, Robert Werner Bagwell. He is a graduate of Newton Theological Seminary, and stood a most satisfactory examination. Bro. Bagwell is a bright, pious and promising young minister, and is now ready to enter the pastorate. Any church or churches needing a pastor would do well to enter into correspondence with him or his pastor, J. Manning Dunaway."

Married.

TARR-DRYDEN—At the Maryland and Virginia line, September 6, 1896, by Rev. G. D. Edmonstone, Mr. Chas. L. Tarr to Miss Josephine Dryden, both of Accomac county, Va.

TAYLOR-HOPKINS—Mr. Custis S. Taylor and Miss Minnie E. Hopkins, of Mappsville, Va., at the Parker House on Tuesday, Rev. H. J. Handy officiating.—Worcester Enterprise, 5th.

BARNES-DIX—At the residence of her sister, North Eutaw street, Baltimore, Miss Nora Dix, daughter of Dr. A. T. Dix, of Accomac county, Va., and Mr. Wiley J. Barnes, of Macon, Ga., Rev. J. S. Wharton, of Crisfield, Md., officiating. After the marriage ceremony the bridal party took the Seaboard Air Line via Norfolk, Va., for their home in Macon.—Evangelist, 9th.

Died.

BULL—At her home, near Pastoria, Wednesday, September 9th, of dropsy, Miss Harriet Bull, aged 45 years.

THORNTON—Near Atlantic, Tuesday, September 8th, of consumption, John Henry Thornton, aged about 70 years.

Eastern Shore Agricultural Fair.

PREMIUMS AWARDED.

Agricultural and Mechanical Dept. George W. James, apples \$1 00 Ida Belote, 2d 50 Jos. H. Savage, peaches 1 00 Harvey Ward, 2d 50 Mrs. Julia Bull, pears 1 00 Wm. S. Bundick, 2d 50 Miss F. O. East, sample grapes 50 Emma Treacle, 2d 25 Miss F. O. East, variety grapes 1 00 Mrs. Julia Bull, 2d 50 Wm. B. Mapp, watermelon 1 50 Geo. W. James, 2d 75 J. R. Cutler, 3d 50 Geo. W. James, 4th 25 F. L. Thomas, muskmelon 1 00 Geo. W. James, 2d 50 Leroy J. Kilmon, 3d 25 Geo. R. Phillips, Irish potatoes 2 50 Alvin H. Mason, 2d 2 00 J. R. Cutler, 3d 1 50 T. J. Scarborough, sw't potatoes 8 00 C. S. Kilmon, 2d 6 00 W. B. Pitts, 3d 5 00 S. R. Belote, 4th 4 00 W. B. Drummond, 5th 3 00 C. B. Johnson, 6th 2 00 W. H. Scarborough, 7th 1 00 W. J. LeCato, table beets 50 Mrs. S. S. Martin, 2d 25 Elliott Johnson, squash 50 A. J. Bird, 2d 25 J. R. Cutler, lima beans 50 Sadie E. West, 2d 25 W. B. Byrd, assortment table vegetables 2 00 Mrs. Julia Bull, 2d 1 00 T. R. James, pumpkin 1 00 G. L. Doughty, 2d 50 John H. James, tomatoes 1 00 Geo. F. Nock, 2d 50 Geo. T. Mapp, 3rd 1 50 G. T. Benson, onions 75 W. B. Byrd, 2d 75 J. R. Drummond, 3rd 1 00 W. T. Killmon, oats 50 J. E. Bradford, 2d 50 J. J. Hopkins, white corn 1 00 W. T. Killmon, 2d 50 G. W. James, yellow corn 1 00 J. H. Savage, 2d 50 W. B. Mapp, bale hay 2 00 W. B. Mapp, 2d 2 00 G. W. Jacob, green corn 50 L. J. Killmon, 2d 25 W. T. Killmon, table corn 50 C. M. Bird, horse cart 5 00 M. F. Byrd, 2d 3 00 M. T. Wise, oat rake 50 F. W. Whitman, farmer F. plow 1 00 F. W. Whitman, cultivator 1 00 double wagon 5 00 A. W. Lilliston, single wagon 3 00 F. W. Whitman, drag 2 00 Specials. M. T. Wise, butter beans 25 T. J. Scarborough, new white corn 25 F. L. Thomas, new yellow corn 1 00 John T. James, ham 50 John H. Nock, 2d 50 J. G. Nock, parsnips & red pepper 25 Thomas Gray, mill maize 25

HORSE DEPARTMENT.

Spring colt, W. C. West, owner 10 00 Mrs. Elliott Johnson, 2d 5 00 Fastest Two Year Old, 1 mile Heats. Time, 1:26. Oakley, Coley A. Kellam, owner 25 00 Rangtang, Wm. L. James, 2d 15 00 San Patch, H. L. Upshur, 3d 10 00 Stallion Race—Time, 2:34. Bursar, Fashion Lawn Farm 50 00 Basil, Fisher Bradford, 2d 30 00 Ham, A. S. Kellam, 3rd 20 00 3 Minute Class—Time, 2:41. Regulator, C. Otwell, owner 50 00 Lee Cuyler, Floyd Bros., 2d 25 00 John H., Jno. H. Kellam, 3rd 12 50 White Stone, J. W. Gladstone, 4th 12 50 Second Day—Best One Year Old. Lucy J., H. C. Johnson, owner 10 00 Miss Maraudes, G. W. Jacob, 2d 5 00 Best Two Year Old. Ethel H., H. C. Johnson, owner 10 00 Hector, W. T. Johnson, 2d 5 00 Fastest Three Year Old—Time, 2:38. Lamp Girl, L. D. T. Quinby, owner 50 00 Happy Tie, O. A. Browne, 2d 25 00 Sport, B. T. Ames, 3rd 15 00 Susie J., W. I. James, 4th 10 00 Pacing Race—Time, 2:31. Trixie Lee, J. R. Richardson, owner 40 00 Little Guy, J. A. Guy, 2d 20 00 Josie B., J. M. Henderson, 3rd 12 00 Free for all E. S.—Time, 2:24. Bursar, Fashion Lawn Farm, 50 00 J. R. J. R. Bull, 2d 25 00 Clay Girl, W. M. Turlington, 3d 15 00 Third Day—Best Three Year Old. Lamp Girl, L. D. T. Quinby, owner 10 00 Edith, S. Y. Nottingham, 2d 5 00 Fastest Four Year Old—Time, 2:35. Lamp Girl, L. D. T. Quinby, owner 50 00 Douglass, S. R. James, 2d 25 00 Billy J., J. R. James, 3d 15 00 Dr. Snow, G. T. Coleburn, 4th 10 00 2:35 Class—Time, 2:42. Regulator, C. Otwell, owner 50 00 John H., J. H. Kellam, 2d 25 00 Whitestone, W. J. Gladstone, 3d 15 00 Swane, S. C. Turlington, 4th 10 00 2:40 Class—Time, 2:34. Powell, Fashion Lawn Farm 50 00 Clay Girl, W. M. Turlington, 2d 25 00 Lady Maude, Geo. Walker, 3d 15 00 Fourth Day—2:30 Class—Time, 2:34. Basil, Fisher Bradford, owner 75 00 Gray Eagle, L. T. Parker, 2d 25 00 Maggie D., W. B. Duncan, 3d 35 00 Pacing Race—Time, 2:37. Little Guy, J. A. Guy, owner 30 00 Tucker, J. A. Boits, 2d 15 00 Running Race—1 mile—Time, 1:08. Llewellyn, W. C. Ames, owner 15 00 Charlie, J. C. Doughty, 2d 10 00 Walter, L. O. Ames, 3d 5 00

To Merchants of Eastern Shore.

As we will not be able to call on the merchants of the Eastern Shore before they purchase their fall stock, we would be glad to have them either call and see us or send us their orders. We are headquarters for rope, oars, oyster baskets and all classes of wooden-ware, and sell at the lowest market prices. C. S. WAPLES & Co.

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Query Answered as to Freight Rates to New England Points.

MR. EDITOR:—Since so much has been said about the committee who went to Philadelphia in the interest of the farmers and the railroad companies, to try to get freight rates reduced, viz: that my motive was to advance my political aspirations to the supplanting of Hon. S. W. Matthews, and that freight rates would have been reduced soon any way, and therefore the committee did not deserve so much credit for what they did, and that others besides the committee were entitled to, and deserved, as much credit as the committee, and since the query published in last week's issue of your paper over the signature of W. L. Nock, it becomes necessary that I should give an explanation and also render an account of our stewardship to Mr. W. L. Nock. Before this effort to try to get the rates reduced was made, I was deeply impressed with the idea that an effort was made in the spirit of an appeal and the railroad companies could be made to see that there was a necessity for it, they would reduce their freight rates, and under the plans I had formulated in my mind, there could be no risk in trying, as the effort need not cost anyone more than ten cents and realizing that if the effort proved a success it would be a saving of perhaps one hundred thousand dollars annually to the farmers of Accomac and Northampton counties I determined to make the effort. To prove I had no such selfish motive as I have been accused of, instead of writing an appeal myself, as I afterwards did, I asked two gentlemen to do it, one of whom was too unwell to undertake such a work, but did encourage me to do it; the other said he was too busy to do it. I then wrote the appeal and also a circular letter and had fifty copies of each printed and distributed them to representative men in every neighborhood in the two counties, asking these men to act as agents for me in getting names signed to the appeals, and also to collect five or ten cents from all they could who signed them, to raise a fund to pay the expenses of a delegate, or delegation I wished to send up to Philadelphia to make the appeal to the proper official of the railroad companies. After receiving several letters of encouragement from these agents to whom I had sent the appeals, and also encouragement from so many in my own town by giving me their names and ten cents, I was convinced that my plan for getting names and money were succeeding, and that I would get names enough to present a good showing and possibly money enough to send up three delegates. I then selected Dr. G. W. LeCato, who I thought was eminently suited to aid me in the execution of the work already begun. I then sent for him to come to see me and we talked over the matter and decided to write to Mr. R. B. Cooke, and sent him a copy of the appeal and asked him to give us a name of the proper official in Philadelphia to whom we should go with our appeal, and also asking him to go with the delegation and as we then thought it best to send up at least five, and knowing we would not succeed in getting a fund sufficient to pay the expenses of five, we in our letter asked Mr. Cooke to give us half free rates for five. Dr. LeCato and myself then mutually agreed on whom we would select to go with us to Philadelphia in case we, with Mr. Cooke's aid, could send five, viz: Dr. Charles Smith and Captain O. A. Browne to represent Northampton and Dr. LeCato, Hon. S.W. Matthews and myself to represent Accomac. But on hearing from Mr. Cooke, he did not notice our request for half-free rates for five, but said two was enough to go. Again, to prove I had no selfish motive, I then said to Dr. LeCato, if two were better than three to go I would stay at home and let him and Dr. Smith go and represent their respective counties, but this he would not consent to, saying, the credit was due me for starting and planning the enterprise in its beginning, and I, first of all, should go and help execute the work, and as I had in hand forty dollars and sixty-five cents after paying the cost of printing stationery and stamps, which amount would possibly pay the expenses of three, I decided to go, and with what results the following letter from Mr. Charles A. Chipley, the official to whom we presented our appeal, and who, with the concurrence of Mr. R. B. Cooke, reduced the rates, will show:

MR. S. R. NELSON, Onancock, Va.:

Dear Sir:—I have your favor of the 2d instant, and in reply thereto I beg to say that the representation made to me by yourself, Dr. LeCato and a gentleman by the name of Smith, I cannot now recall his name but I believe he was a member of the Virginia legislature, in regard to reduction in the rates on potatoes from your territory, was the cause of the reduction made by us, and had not the matter been presented to me in the manner it was presented to me the rates would not have been reduced.

It is our desire at all times to work for the best interests of our patrons. Many times, however, we are importuned for reduction in rates when parties undertake to deceive us, and in cases of that kind reductions are seldom made, but when it can be shown as it was shown by yourself and the committee that waited on me that a reduction was necessary, as a matter of course, we had nothing else to do but to reduce the rates to help the farmers in your territory out.

Yours truly,

CHAS. A. CHIPLEY, A. G. F. A.

Now in answer to Mr. W. L. Nock's query. The reason we did not then ask for a reduction in rates to the New England markets was: First, because we took it for granted that the ten cents reduction allowed us to the other points nearer by would also be allowed us to all points beyond, going in the same direction, and we

know that to ask specially for a reduction to the New England markets would require an agreement between the officials of the Pennsylvania system and the officials of the connecting lines leading to the New England markets, and therefore would delay the putting in force the reduction we did get. Second: We knew as a natural consequence, if we got reduced rates to New York and other points near by it would not be long in force before a reduction in rates to the New England markets would follow, which did follow within fifteen days from the time the other reduction went in force; and we are willing to leave it to the public to judge whether or not we acted "intelligently" or made a "blunder" and deserve to be criticised and censured. Will Mr. Nock kindly tell us who appointed the committee, and to whom are they under obligations to render an account for their actions? If the query was made for the benefit of the committee, why was it not done by private letter to the committee